IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Jo KLAVENESS et al.

Serial No. : Continuation of 10/072,655

Filed: Herewith

For : CONTRAST AGENTS

Examiner: M. Hartley

Art Unit : 1619

Mail Stop Patent Application P.O. Box 1450 Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 5, insert --This application is a continuation application of prior application Serial No. 10/072,655 filed February 8, 2002, which is a continuation application of prior application Serial No. 09/231,351 filed January 13, 1999 which is a continuation of prior application Serial No. 08/939,165, filed September 29, 1997 which is a divisional application of application Serial No. 08/478,037, filed June 7, 1995, which is a divisional application of application Serial No. 08/256,149, filed December 9, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,558,856.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel all of the claims in the application without prejudice or disclaimer and add the following new claims to the application: